

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 25-121 were pending in the subject application. Claims 25-36 and 64 have been canceled to expedite prosecution, claims 7, 37-63, 65-71, and 120-121 have been amended, and claims 73-121 renumbered to reflect the correct numbering set forth by the Patent Office. Accordingly, claims 7 and 37-121 are pending in the subject application.

Claims 73-121 have been renumbered in compliance with the Patent Office's request. Claim 64, which was duplicative of claim 63 has been cancelled. All claims now recite subject matter consistent with the Patent Office's restriction. Accordingly, withdrawal of all objections is requested.

Claims 37-71, 120 and 121 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, these claims were rejected for lacking antecedent basis in the base claim. To avoid this issue, applicants have amended the claims to be in independent form, thereby mooting the rejection.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is earnestly solicited.

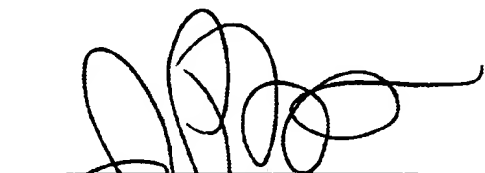
Since the Patent Office has acknowledged that the claimed invention is free of the prior art and all statutorily based rejections have been overcome above, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

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If a telephone conference would be of assistance in furthering prosecution of the subject application, applicants request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the number below.

No fee, except the fee for the presentation of additional independent claims, is required in connection with the filing of this Amendment. If any fees are deemed necessary, authorization is given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 08-2525.

Respectfully submitted,



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